

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. No Claims have been amended. Claim 10 has previously been cancelled without prejudice. Therefore, claims 1-9 and 11-22 now are presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection*Shattil and Sugar*

The Examiner has rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0147655 issued to Shattil (hereinafter referred to as "Shattil") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,785,520 issued to Sugar (hereinafter referred to as "Sugar"). The Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is traversed because neither reference is prior art.

Shattil was filed on Feb. 7, 2003, after the filing date of the present patent application, Sept. 28, 2001. Therefore, the cited reference is not prior art.

Shattil claims the priority of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/703,202, filed on Oct. 31, 2000, and issued as U.S. Patent No. 7,076,168, as a continuation-in-part. This '168 patent also includes several priority claims. If the Examiner continues to rely on some reference in this chain of applications, then Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner select a reference that is prior art and specifically point out the sections in that reference that relate to the pending claims.

Sugar was filed on June. 19, 2002 and claims priority back to March 1, 2002, also after the filing date of the present patent application, Sept. 28, 2001. Therefore, the cited reference is not prior art.

Conclusion

Absent any cited references that qualify as prior art and the statute, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed at the earliest possible date.

Request For Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call Gordon Lindeen at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request For An Extension Of Time

The Applicants respectfully petition for a Three-Month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

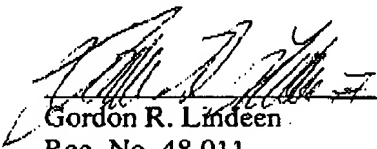
Charge Our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: September 25, 2007


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